

July 16, 1999

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL RECEIVED

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Portals II, 445 12th Street, S. W., Suite TW-A325
Washington, DC 20554

JUL 20 1999

FCC MAIL ROOM

Mr. Al McCloud
Network Services Division
Federal Communications Commission
Portals II, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room 6-A320
Washington, DC 20554

RE: File No. NSD-L-99-24 and CC Docket No. 92-105

Dear Ms. Salas and Mr. McCloud:

I am writing to support the U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) petition for a three-digit, (N11) national telephone number for traffic and traveler information services.

SunLine Transit Agency is one of over 300 transit agencies that currently offer these personalized traveler information services to our residents and the millions of annual visitors to our desert paradise. Our system would be far more effective if everyone were aware of its existence and would know when they arrive in our valley that could dial the same number they use at home to obtain information about bus routes, departure times, and other similar information. Using one number on a nation wide basis just makes sense.

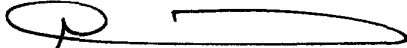
SunLine was the first transit agency to operate a 100% fleet of alternative fueled buses, and we intend to continue being #1 in every category that can improve our riders' use of our clean air fleet.

We recognize that N11 codes are scarce, but traveler information is one of only a few applications that would be of service to practically everyone. Since everyone travels in some manner almost every day, the establishment of this type of

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system would assist in our continued effort to keep the air clean by getting more people on public transit and reduce the pollution and congestion that automobile traffic creates.

Very truly yours,
SunLine Transit Agency

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'R' followed by a long horizontal stroke.

Richard Cromwell III
General Manager



Minnesota Department of Transportation

Transportation Building

395 John Ireland Boulevard
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155-1899

July 9, 1999

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission,
Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW
Suite TW-A325
Washington, D.C., 20554

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Re: CC Docket No. 92-105; File No. NDS-L-99-24

Dear Ms. Salas,

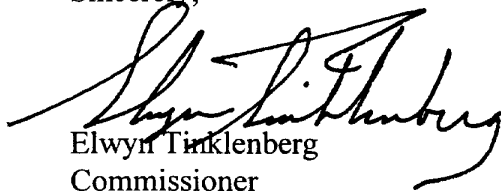
The Minnesota Department of Transportation supports the US DOT petition that FCC designate a national three-digit telephone number (N11) for traffic and traveler information services. In Minnesota, as in all prairie states, winter weather and road conditions can change suddenly. Lack of timely information has resulted in unnecessary hazards being experienced by travelers. In the Twin Cities and in rural recreation and commercial corridors, congestion due to heavy traffic volumes and incidents, results in countless hours of wasted time, countless gallons of wasted fuel, and numerous secondary crashes and stalls.

Timely information allows many travelers to change routes or departure times. Travelers often can not remember 10-digit, even if toll-free, traveler information numbers when they are on the road. Cell phone users can access route specific road conditions and weather information on some routes in Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota by dialing #7233 (#SAFE). In the Twin Cities, cell phone users can access route specific congestion information by dialing #211. These shortened numbers are proving easier for travelers to remember. Mn/DOT also operates a statewide toll-free traveler information number which could readily be converted to N11.

Interstate travelers, both recreational and commercial, will also benefit from the designation of a national three-digit number. With the exception of #SAFE, there are few traveler information numbers coordinated across multiple states. Travelers heading west on I-94, for example, can use #SAFE to access road conditions in either Minnesota or North Dakota through a fairly simple menu system. National designation of a three-digit number could make this convenience available nationally.

Thank you for this opportunity to express our support on this important issue.

Sincerely,


Elwyn Tinklenberg
Commissioner

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cc: (2) Al McCloud, Network Services Division, Portals II, 445 12th Street SW, Room 6A-320,
Washington, D.C. 20554, Steve Bahler Mn/DOT MS 320

THE
MPO

RECEIVED *DES MOINES AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION*

ARGONNE ARMORY - 602 EAST FIRST STREET

JUL 20 1999 — DES MOINES, IOWA 50309-1881 - PHONE: (515) 237-1366 - FAX: (515) 237-1303 —

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July 16, 1999

Ms. Magalie Solas Roman
Federal Communications Commission
Commission Secretary
Portals II
445 12th Street, SW
Suite TW-A325
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Reference: FILE NO. NSD-L-99-24
CC DOCKET NO. 92-105

Dear Ms. Solas Roman:

SUBJECT: UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S N11 PETITION

Enclosed is the Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization's original letter, and four copies, offering support for the United States Department of Transportation's petition to use an abbreviated dialing number (N11) for delivery of travel related information to the public.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment to the Federal Communications Commission's on this issue.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas J. Kane,
Executive Directive

TJK:SLM:slm

Enclosures: 5

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THE
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DES MOINES AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

ARGONNE ARMORY - 602 EAST FIRST STREET
DES MOINES, IOWA 50309-1881 - PHONE: (515) 237-1366 - FAX: (515) 237-1303

July 15, 1999

The Honorable William E. Kennard, Chair
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Reference: FILE NO. NSD-L-99-24
CC DOCKET NO. 92-105

Dear Chair Kennard:

SUBJECT: UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S N11 PETITION

On behalf of the Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), I am writing to convey this organization's support for the United States Department of Transportation's (USDOT) petition to assign a nationwide standard abbreviated dialing number (N11) for use by state and local governments in the delivery of travel related information to the public.

The Des Moines Area MPO has assumed the role of "champion" for Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) issues in this metropolitan area. The Federal Highway Administration awarded the Des Moines Area MPO an ITS Early Deployment Study (EDS), that study has been completed, and the MPO is working to carry out the ITS EDS' recommendations. Given the USDOT's petition, we think it important to share just a few of the reasons why the Federal Communications Commission should find in favor of the USDOT N11 petition.

The MPO supports the USDOT's petition because the MPO members recognize that one key element of a successful ITS program is the ability to share and to distribute traveler information. Everyone should be aware that Americans are traveling more, resulting in an ever increasing amount of vehicles miles of travel (VMT). Increased VMT results in increased congestion for many of America's travelers. Add to that the construction of new transportation facilities has lagged behind the VMT increase. This condition is where ITS applications can come into play to allow our transportation systems, Federal, State, and local, to work more efficiently to deal with the increased traffic using those systems.

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Kennard/Ruan Letter
USDOT N11 Petition
July 15, 1999
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The Des Moines Area MPO supports the USDOT's petition for a national, three-digit number for traveler and traffic information because we at this metropolitan planning organization believe that such a N11 number would mean that all segments of America's traveling public, no matter one's social standing or annual income, no matter where one lives, no matter whether one drives alone, carpools, rides a bus, drives a truck, or uses other means of conveyance, all would have the opportunity to tap into what would be a readily accessible source of traveler information for local, state, and/or national conditions.

The Des Moines Area MPO sits at the crossroads of Interstate Highways I-35 and I-80. This metropolitan area's benefit of location related to the Interstate Highway system results in many travelers, whether tourists or over-the-road commercial truck drivers, passing through our metropolitan area who may be totally unfamiliar with our locality. The Des Moines Area MPO supports the USDOT petition because an N11 number would permit such travelers, should it be needed, the opportunity to use traveler information related to traffic conditions, road closures, nearest rest areas, nearest hospitals, nearest exits for fuel and food, and so forth. Please note that the Des Moines Area MPO offers these comments from a metropolitan perspective, but this point may be very important to travelers in rural areas.

The Des Moines Area MPO's, through its ITS Deployment Committee, is becoming familiar with the issue of wireline or wireless technologies for handling ITS applications, including traveler information. The MPO supports the USDOT petition because granting an N11 number to the USDOT for traveler information distribution would not favor either technology and would allow both technologies to be used in such traveler information transmission.

In closing, we thank the Federal Communications Commission to offer comment on this petition and ask for the Federal Communications Commission approval of the USDOT's petition.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Ruan III".

John Ruan III, Chair
Des Moines Area MPO

JR:TK:sm

July 15, 1999

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Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
Commission Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Portals II, 445 12th Street, S.W.
Suite TW-A325
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Re: File No. NSD-I-99-24
CC Docket No. 92-105

Dear Ms. Salas:

The Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Regional Council of Governments (OKI) is an association of units of local government within the tri-state Cincinnati metropolitan area. OKI is the area's designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) responsible for transportation planning. OKI represents an area with two million people.

OKI strongly recommends designation of a national N-1-1 dialing code for traveler information. As the transportation planning agency for the Cincinnati area, we have first hand knowledge of the benefits associated with a three digit dialing code. Since mid-1995, motorists in our region have used 3-1-1 and 2-1-1 to obtain information on a "Beat the Jam" highway construction program, rideshare services, transit and airport shuttle information, as well as up-to-the-minute traffic conditions on 88 miles of freeway.

The advantage of using this three digit code has enabled travelers to have speedy access to a host of integrated transportation information. This service also has benefited our region by mitigating congestion and improving safety. In a recent survey conducted by the University of Kentucky, 99% of users stated they benefited from information obtained by dialing 2-1-1, and 80% supported the establishment of a national N-1-1 dialing code. The usage data indicates a steady increase in number of calls. Between April 1996 and November 1997, call counts averaged 23,500 per month. Since then, the number of calls has increased dramatically, by about 91%, to an average of 44,900 calls per month.

We are convinced that a N-1-1 dialing code is a critical tool in today's metropolitan travel. Again, we urge that N-1-1 be considered as a National Dialing Code and strongly recommend the use of 2-1-1 as a preferred dialing code.

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Web Site: <http://www.oki.org>

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas

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July 15, 1999

The Ohio Department of Transportation and the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet are planning a visit to the FCC in early Fall. We will be accompanying their representatives on this trip.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Q. Duane", written in a cursive style.

James Q. Duane
Executive Director

JQD/rmb

c: Al McCloud, Federal Communications Commission
John Collins, ITS America
Gordon Proctor, Ohio Department of Transportation
James C. Codell, III, Kentucky Transportation Cabinet